



State of Connecticut  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Commission on Children



## ‘Pillars of Hope, Country of Pride’\*

Quotes from student writing about the September 11 attacks

**Presented on January 14, 2003  
Legislative Office Building, Hartford**

**\*Program Title by Lauren Ciccarello, Grade 8**

“Just someone ask for peace so the world we live in will be free from tragedy. This is all I ask, please.”  
-- Jeffrey Cherry, Grade 5

“What happened to love, what happened to fun – children don’t understand hatred and sorrow - skin color and religion don’t matter to them.” -- Mary Beth Pagett, Grade 11

“You can’t find the scars with technology. Because it will always stay in our minds. I care about my family now more than ever.”-- Veronica Jones, Grade 8

“I feel safe here, now, but I’m still scared.” -- Kamil Regucki, Grade 5

“They tried to make us weaker. They just made us stronger.” -- Justin Gotthardt, Grade 6

“Children realized that they never knew their parents were heroes.” -- Chelsea Granger, Grade 7

“A child can also be a hero. Maybe I will be a hero someday!” -- Jazmin Tirado, Grade 5

“The planets stopped rotating. And everyone’s breath halted.”-- Marissa Ranalli, Grade 8



"I see everything differently. I am closer to my family. I donate more to community." -- Nicole Blanchard, Grade 7



"Heroes can be anyone, of any shape or size. Heroes can be anyone, even if they die. Heroes are citizens, who really care, and respect our community."-- Alexis Anderson, Grade 3

"Our hearts have been broken. There is more prejudice and hatred. But we have gained bravery, courage, and don't take family and friends for granted." -- Katrina Walczyk, Grade 4

"Now we try to rebuild our country and regain our innocence." -- Zackery Ackerman, Grade 5



"The pride of America will not wilt. America has already rebuilt." -- Brett Beaulieu-Jones, Grade 8

"Gone is the thought that we were safe. Remembered are all the people coming together." --Marta Biela Kowska, Grade 8

"Our whole entire lives changing in a moment." -- Jaleesa Irizarry, Grade 7



"We will never forget 9/11. When hatred took over." -- Chelsea Tourigny, Grade 8

"Why is there so much hatred? Doesn't anybody care?" - Laureen Monge, Grade 6

"They damaged New York City most of all. Yet still we are standing, standing strong and tall." --Shelby Flynn, Grade 6

"It is silent and scary. Your stomach starts to churn. The air becomes black." -- Laureen Smith, Grade 8



"What makes me feel safe is to be in a place where the love and need for protection in our country run much stronger than the needs of one." -- Robin Carey, Grade 7

“It will always be in someone to guide and to lead.”  
-- Chris Pierce, Grade 8

“I feel like I’ve been slapped in the face. This is one of the saddest things that’s ever happened to me. Still, I will always love my country.” -- Emily Andre, Grade 6

“In this place there was a hero. Now they just call him a part of ground zero.” -- Andrew Cardillo, Grade 6

“I see how the future changed in a day. And I am scared.” -- Ben Schoeneberger, Grade 8

“I can see with my eyes the freedom of America.” -- Montana Beutler, Grade 6

“Gone the trust of immigrants freely coming by. Strengthened are hearts and spirits. Remembered how we joined for all who have died.” -- Brian Desjardins, Grade 8

“A hero stays by you in your last minutes.” -- Chris Campion, Grade 6

